

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 PC-15 USIA-15 IO-14 DODE-00

AGR-20 ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 FDRE-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /198 W  
----- 063069

R 071100Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1733

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 1164

AFDROUGHT

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH REPORTS ON 1973 DROUGHT RELIEF  
PROGRAMS

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 1163 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. DURING THE COURSE OF THIS ANNUAL STATE OF THE NATION  
ADDRESS, GIVEN THIS YEAR ON DECEMBER 3, PRESIDENT OULD  
DADDAH DWELT AT LENGTH ON GIRM AND OUTSIDE DONOR EFFORTS AT DROUGHT  
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION. ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT, DROUGHT  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF ALL KINDS HAD A TOTAL CASH VALUE OF  
SOME 1.6 BILLION OUGUIYA (UM) OR DOLLARS 38.08 MILLION, AN  
AMOUNT EQUAL TO 75 PERCENT OF THE 1973 GIRM BUDGET. OF THIS  
AMOUNT, ABOUT ONE BILLION UM OR 23.8 MILLION DOLLARS WERE  
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GIFTS IN CASH OR COMMODITIES FROM FOREIGN DONORS. ABOUT 600

MILLION UM OR DOLLARS 14.2 MILLION CAME DIRECTLY FROM GIRM OR OTHER MAURITANIAN SOURCES. THE PRESIDENT ENUMERATED GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUAL DONOR COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAMS INITIATED BY GIRM ITSELF. END SUMMARY.

1. FOREIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AMOUNTED TO SOME 90,000 MT OF EMERGENCY FOODS, INCLUDING 83,000 MT OF GRAINS, 1,800 MT OF MILK POWDER, AND 156 TONS OF BUTTER AND BUTTER OIL, 42 TRUCKS FOR FOOD TRANSPORT, THE LOAN OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT, AND SOME 264 MILLION OUGUIYA OR DOLLARS 6.28 MILLION IN DIRECT CASH CONTRIBUTIONS, SOME OF THEM TIED TO SPECIFIC PROGRAMS. FYI. ABOVE DOES NOT INCLUDE SOME 20,000 MT TONS OF GRAINS LEFT OVER FROM 1972 EMERGENCY PROGRAMS OR GIRM GRAIN PURCHASES. EMBASSY AND WFP ARE PREPARING UP-DATED LISTING OF 1973 FOREIGN DROUGHT - RELATED ASSISTANCE FOR SUBMISSION BY SEPTTEL. END FYI.

2. LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOTALED ABOUT 600 MILLION OUGUIYA OR 14.2 MILLION DOLLARS. THESE INCLUDED A GIRM ALLOTMENT OF 5 PERCENT OF THE 1973 NATIONAL BUDGET OR SOME 2.5 MILLION DOLLARS, RECEIPTS FROM A TAX OF ONE DAY'S PAY PER MONTH LEVIED ON ALMOST ALL SALARIES EMPLOYEES, ONE PERCENT TURNOVER TAX LEVIED ON ALL PRIVATE BUSINESSES, AND PRIVATE LOCAL DONATIONS. THESE FUNDS AND OTHER DROUGHT FUNDS (SUCH AS THOSE GENERATED THROUGH THE SALE OF SOME GRAIN AT A NOMINAL PRICE OF 15 CFAF PER KILO) ARE CENTRALIZED IN A SEPARATE ACCOUNT UNDER CONTROL OF THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND USED TO FINANCE DROUGHT-RELATED PURCHASES OR PROJECTS.

3. DROUGHT LOSSES. PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH ESTIMATED CATTLE LOSSES AS A RESULT OF THE DROUGHT AT 90 PERCENT IN THE SOUTHWEST AND NORTH, AND AT 40 PERCENT IN SOUTHEAST. CEREAL PRODUCTION FOR THIS YEAR, WOULD SCARCELY REACH 30 PERCENT OF NORMAL.

4. REHABILITATION PROGRAMS. AMONG DROUGHT RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS INITIATED BY GIRM IN 1973, THE PRESIDENT LISTED:

A) A MARKET GARDEN PROJECT FOR 47 VILLAGES (2,200 FAMILIES) IN THE SENEGAL VALLEY; THIS PROJECT WILL BE ENLARGED IN 1974.

B) A CONTINUING PROGRAM OF IMPROVED WATER SUPPLIES AND WELL DRILLING; 12 WELLS COMPLETED IN 1973.

C) PURCHASE OF 15 WATER TANK TRUCKS TO SUPPLY NOMADIC CAMPS.  
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D) CREATION OF A 6000-HEAD NATIONAL HERD AS THE BASIS FOR REBUILDING THE CATTLE POPULATION.

E) CLEARING OF 600 KILOMETERS OF FIRE-BREAKS IN SOUTHERN PASTURE LANDS.

F) DISTRIBUTION OF SOME 90,000 MT OF EMERGENCY FOODS.

G) TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT REGROUPMENT OF NOMADS AROUND TOWNS WHERE WATER AND EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLIED WERE AVAILABLE.

H) THE CREATION OF A GOVERNMENT-OWNED FLEET OF 149 HEAVY TRUCKS

FOR EMERGENCY FOOD TRANSPORT.MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, TRUCKS, MILK, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, SPEECHES, TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT, GRAINS, BUTTER  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 DEC 1973  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
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